embodiments of this invention are not limited for use with only this one particular type of wireless communication system, and that they may be used to advantage in other wireless communication systems.

[0104] It should be noted that the terms "connected," "coupled," or any variant thereof, mean any connection or coupling, either direct or indirect, between two or more elements, and may encompass the presence of one or more intermediate elements between two elements that are "connected" or "coupled" together. The coupling or connection between the elements can be physical, logical, or a combination thereof. As employed herein two elements may be considered to be "connected" or "coupled" together by the use of one or more wires, cables and/or printed electrical connections, as well as by the use of electromagnetic energy, such as electromagnetic energy having wavelengths in the radio frequency region, the microwave region and the optical (both visible and invisible) region, as several non-limiting and non-exhaustive examples.

[0105] Further, the various names used for the described parameters, reports and the like (e.g., BSR, DRB, etc.) are not intended to be limiting in any respect, as these various parameters and reports may be identified by any suitable names. Further, the various names assigned to different network types and components (e.g., E-UTRAN, CA, HetNet, small cell, pico cell, RRH, etc.) are not intended to be limiting in any respect, as these various network types and components may be identified by any suitable names.

[0106] Furthermore, some of the features of the various non-limiting and exemplary embodiments of this invention may be used to advantage without the corresponding use of other features. As such, the foregoing description should be considered as merely illustrative of the principles, teachings and exemplary embodiments of this invention, and not in limitation thereof.

1-56. (canceled)

57. A method, comprising:

operating a user equipment in a macro cell; and

selectively, based on at least one criterion, at least one of measuring or not measuring a small cell located within the macro cell, and transmitting or not transmitting a measurement report for the small cell to a wireless network.

58. The method of claim **57**, where the at least one criterion comprises a presence or an absence of data in an uplink data buffer of the user equipment, where the presence or the absence of data is with respect to a threshold amount of data being present in the uplink data buffer.

59. The method of claim **57**, where the at least one criterion comprises a discontinuous reception (DRX) mode of operation of the user equipment.

60. The method of claim **57**, where the at least one criterion comprises whether the user equipment is currently involved in at least one of an active uplink data transmission and an active downlink data reception.

61. The method of claim **57**, where the at least one criterion comprises an amount of time that has expired since a last use of a data radio bearer by the user equipment.

62. The method of claim **57**, where for a case that the measurement report is transmitted to the wireless network further comprising including additional information in the measurement report that is related to at least a potential need of the user equipment to perform a data offloading operation to the small cell.

63. The method of claim **57**, where the at least one criterion is one of established by the user equipment or is established by the wireless network.

64. An apparatus, comprising:

at least one data processor; and

at least one memory including computer program code, where the at least one memory and computer program code are configured, with the at least one data processor, to cause the apparatus, when the apparatus is operated in a macro cell of a wireless network, to selectively, based on at least one criterion, at least one of measure or not measure a small cell located within the macro cell, and transmit or not transmit a measurement report for the small cell to the wireless network.

65. The apparatus of claim **64**, where the at least one criterion comprises a presence or an absence of data in an uplink data buffer of the apparatus, where the presence or the absence of data is with respect to a threshold amount of data being present in the uplink data buffer.

66. The apparatus of claim **64**, where the at least one criterion comprises a discontinuous reception (DRX) mode of operation of the apparatus.

67. The apparatus of claim **64**, where the at least one criterion comprises whether the apparatus is currently involved in at least one of an active uplink data transmission and an active downlink data reception.

68. The apparatus of claim **64**, where the at least one criterion comprises an amount of time that has expired since a last use of a data radio bearer by the apparatus.

69. The apparatus as in claim **64**, where for a case that the measurement report is transmitted to the wireless network the at least one memory and computer program code are further configured, with the at least one data processor, to include additional information in the measurement report that is related to at least a potential need of the apparatus to perform a data offloading operation to the small cell.

70. The apparatus as in claim **64**, where the at least one criterion is one of established by the apparatus or is established by the wireless network.

71. An apparatus, comprising:

at least one data processor; and

at least one memory including computer program code, where the at least one memory and computer program code are configured, with the at least one data processor, to cause the apparatus to determine at a wireless network a current operational state of a user equipment that is located within a macro cell of the wireless network, where the macro cell contains at least one small cell and, based at least on the determined current operational state of the user equipment, to make at least one of a small cell measurement decision, a small cell measurement reporting decision, and a small cell handover decision for the user equipment.

72. The apparatus as in claim **71**, where the current operational state is based at least in part on whether there is buffered data for the user equipment.

73. The apparatus as in claim **71**, where the current operational state is based at least in part on a buffer status report that is received from the user equipment.

74. The apparatus as in claim **71**, where the current operational state is based at least in part on a discontinuous reception (DRX) mode of operation of the user equipment.

75. The apparatus as in claim **71**, where the current operational state is based at least in part on whether the user equip-